

**REMARKS**

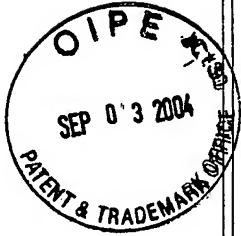
Claims 31, 32, 42 and 43 have been amended to clarify the invention and claims 31 and 32 have also been amended to overcome the Examiner's §112 rejections.

Turning to the rejection of claims 31 and 42 under 35 USC §102 as obvious over newly cited Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,231,038) in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,204,538), the rejection of claims 34, 37 and 40 as obvious over Yamaguchi et al. and Kim in further view of Satoh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,834,817) and the rejection of claims 32, 33, 35, 38 and 41 under 35 USC § 103 as obvious over Iguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,734,185) in view of Satoh et al. and further in view of Kim, the references cited by the Examiner are not related to the semiconductor device of the present invention. Kim, which is the most analogous reference, discloses a technique of connecting the gate and the drain of a transistor (UT, DT) together by using one contact (FIG. 2; FIG. 3). However, the present invention relates to a technique of connecting the gate wiring extending from the gate electrode of the first transistor to at least the diffusion layer of the second transistor and connecting the gate wiring to the diffusion layer of the second transistor using a contact. None of the remaining references teaches two transistors as claimed in claims 31 and 32. Yamaguchi et al. teaches a contact that is formed only on a silicide film. Satoh et al. teaches a shaped gate electrode (Abstract). And, Iguchi et al. teaches only a fabrication process for a MOS transistor (Abstract). Thus, none of the Examiner's cited references can anticipate or render obvious claims 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40 and 43.

Having dealt with all of the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

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A credit card authorization Form PTO-2038 in the amount of \$950.00 in payment of the Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 30, 2004 at Tucson, Arizona.

By

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